

THE "NAMO" PIRACY.

MAJESTY'S INQUIRY.

Mr. H. E. Woodhouse continued the inquiry at the Magistrate's to-day into the circumstances connected with the death of Capt. T. G. Pocock. Mr. Petersen, a passenger, and others, who were murdered by pirates on board the British steamship *Namoa* on the 10th ultimo.

SUGGESTED PREVENTIVE MEASURES.

G. B. Eldridge, chief officer of the *Namoa*, recalled, said the examination should be referred to the other day as desirable, was one similar to that which is now in use on the Canton steamer wharf. He would suggest that the duty of preventing passengers from coming on board from boats ought to rest with the Government. As a rule vessels commence to receive passengers twelve or eighteen hours before starting. The Government might place an officer on board the steamer twenty-four hours before that, to prevent the passengers from boarding them from boats. He did not think cargo should be so treated; that could come on board on any boats. He presumed the Government might pay the expenses of the Preventive Service out of tonnage dues or something of that kind. In the case of ships not lying alongside a wharf the preventive officer on board might receive passengers by "permit" issued from the officers on wharves where the passengers could be examined previous to going on board. He did not think it would be sufficient to only search the luggage of passengers. If the search was conducted on board all ships it would entail the employment of a large staff of officers. Chinese passengers were very seldom transferred from one ship to another without landing. He would say the examination should be conducted as regards Chinese passengers only. Under the system he suggested passage money might still be received on board, because some of them have no opportunity to go to the office for tickets. As regards such late passengers they should invariably have their baggage passed through an examination shed for they could do that at any hour of the day or night. It might not be an improvement to have tickets for passengers sold at the examination sheds, so as to prevent passengers from coming on board without tickets. It might be done, but there would be difficulties. In most cases a boarding-house master takes tickets at the office for batches of passengers. It would have been possible, under existing arrangements, for the chief to have taken the tickets for his men and have distributed them as he pleased. It would also have been possible for all the men to have been in the same boarding-house. Under the present system there was no guarantee that a man who might be compelled to take a ticket at a wharf, after his baggage was examined, would not transfer his ticket to another Chinaman, and his baggage also. There should be an examination of the person of Chinese passengers, as well as of their luggage. It should be done as they pass through the barrier (the shed). He thought that after the gateway was up some detectives might look about the 'tween decks so as to see whether any well known bad characters were going in a ship, and if they found any such on board they should inform the chief officer. It would not be necessary to adopt these preventive measures at any ports other than Hongkong. He had mentioned all the precautions he considered necessary prior to ship getting under way. With regard to the armament of vessels all officers of ships should be efficiently armed. Every officer of a ship should have a revolver and a Winchester repeating rifle in it. There should be the same armament in the wheel-house and engine room. He would not recommend that arms be placed in the passengers' cabins and it should be left optional to the officers as to whether they should wear arms. If there was a very large number of passengers on board they should wear their revolvers when on duty. The arms when not worn should be kept in some convenient place easily accessible in the officers' cabins. The ammunition should be kept close to the arms, handy for use. The quartermasters should be armed with revolvers to be worn when on duty. He did not think a stand-of-arms for each vessel was any good when a vessel was surprised. It was not necessary to carry heavy guns. At present no restrictions were placed on passengers on board. They were allowed to roam all over the ship, except on the quarter deck, all, and were reserved for first class passengers. He would say that an armed sentry be stationed at the top of the 'tween deck companion ladders, whenever a large number of passengers were carried. Such sentry might also be possessed of a police whistle so as to be able to give warning in the event of any attempt by the passengers to make a rush on deck. All the revolvers he spoke of should be kept loaded. The sentry should be a Malay. It should be his special duty to see that the passengers make no rush on deck. There were only restrictions he would place on the passengers. He would not suggest that the passengers be separated in any way. The present crew could conduct the extra sentry duty. He had no suggestions to make as to constructional improvements in ships. He did not hear any firing forward before he heard in the after part of the ship. He was in the saloon when the outbreak occurred. The firing commenced at the after and fore parts of the ship simultaneously. In passing out of the ship the ship he referred to the deck officers and engineers. Had all these precautions been adopted previously he considered the pirates would have been repulsed with marked success. It would be the duty of the master of a ship to see that such precautions were taken, and the duty of the company to see that the necessary revolvers etc. were supplied. In the case of the *Namoa* there must have been a rush of passengers on deck, for he was the last to come along, and then the Chinese were all below except one who was strolling about. Whether or not he was one of the pirates it was impossible for him to say. Barring a rush he thought the sentry would have nothing to do except prevent very large numbers from coming on deck at any one time. Two or three minutes after he left his cabin to go to the saloon the firing commenced. The man walking about the deck was not the pirate chief. He could identify the chief at any time. It did not appear to him that they could have special reasons for attacking the *Namoa* on this trip. When stating that piracy would not occur on board ships leaving Chinese ports he did not have in his mind the case of the *Spar*, which Inspector Matheson pointed out as being pirated between Canton and Macao—having left Canton where there was a Customs House. By legislation passengers could be prevented from taking valuables on board, but he would not suggest that there should be any steps taken to prevent passengers from taking valuables on board. He did not think it was necessary, for the safety of a ship, that European quartermasters should be carried—Malays were quite suitable.

OTHER MEASURES.

F. H. Macintosh, chief engineer, recalled, said he did not agree with what the last witness had said in the main. He thought the scheme for searching passengers' baggage was unworth-

able and ineffective, unless very rigidly carried out. He agreed with the chief officer as regards the armament of the ship was concerned. He thought nothing more was necessary than what Mr. Eldridge had suggested. As to the uselessness of a stand of arms he agreed and also as regards the sentry, also as to limiting the number of passengers allowed on deck at one time. He could not suggest any structural improvements. He had thought a good deal about the matter and had come to the conclusion that the simplest way would be to muster the passengers on deck and allow a couple of detectives to go through them before the ship. Then if there were bad characters on board they would inform the officers and the latter would have them turned out. He thought if that was done it would be almost unnecessary to arm the ships, for the fact of being known that such was done (the search by detectives) pirates would not come on board. He would not have the luggage searched it being sufficient to turn all bad characters out of the ship—for one or two men could not injure the ship's company. The hose in the engine room was for drawing ashore, cooling hot bearings and for filling out the condenser. There never was any idea of using it for protective purposes for it was only long enough for passing through the room itself. In his opinion even supposing it to be suitable for turning steam on pirates, the fact that the hose would not stand the pressure of steam—70 or 80 pounds—it would take too long to get it ready. He thought it would be a very good thing to have a hot-water hose connected with the bridge so that it could be turned on at any moment. It would neither be a source of danger to the boiler nor difficult to work. Such a hose could be turned off at any moment. The hot water would be in the pipe, connected and be with the bridge whenever there was a large crowd of passengers on board. When no attack was possible or probable he would have the hot-water turned off at the boiler. There was no prospect of an outbreak on the lower deck only. He did not think that there was any necessity for searching the Chinese crew. It was more necessary to examine passengers' persons than to search their baggage. He thought if the passengers were examined by detectives and the hot-water hose kept ready there would be no further danger of pirates on steamers.

INSPECTOR MATHESON SPEAKS.

John Matheson, Inspector of Police, said he agreed with the last witness as to the hot-water hose. There should be a search of the passengers' baggage on the gangway, for arms. It might be done by the Government at the expense of the shipowners. He also agreed with the chief officer that there should be examination sheds on the wharves. He had no remarks to make on the case in general. The police had no inkling of what was about to happen, which was a surprise. The arrangements for such an affair must have been very elaborate, and then there would be, perhaps, only one or two men connected with the Force who would know that something, not knowing what, was going to happen. It was very strange the Chinese police knew nothing of it. The Chinese detectives were cognisant of all crimes that were perpetrated and very little goes on that escapes their notice. He had no reason to suppose that the Chinese detectives were in collusion with the pirates, and the fact that they did not know about it was another tribute to the skill of the pirate chief. He thought the Chinese passengers ought to be kept in the 'tween decks, and none but a very few at a time allowed on the upper deck. A European quartermaster should be stationed at the 'tween deck companion, armed with a revolver and cutlass. Such quartermasters should be retired men of the Navy or Naval Reserve—men having a knowledge of the use of arms. Only one half of the officers should be allowed to go to meals at one time. There should also be a signal—such as three blasts with the whistle—when an outbreak took place, or was contemplated.

THE SUMMING UP AND FINDINGS.

His Worship:—There is now on official record evidence of the most daring, best organized and well carried out piracy that has ever disgraced these seas, and I deeply regret that the inquiry was ever occasioned; not in consequence of the non-arrest of the perpetrators of this daring outrage, but on account of the lamentable death of Captain Thomas Guy Pocock, light-house-keeper Peterkin and others. It is unnecessary to go through all the particulars of this piracy which has engaged the attention of this Court for so many days. They reveal a power of organization and a skillfulness of command which is at once admirable and appalling; and there are very few who could have carried through, and have brought such an achievement to a successful issue—presenting as it did numerous difficulties—unless a combination of some kind had existed. Every detail appears to have been very carefully considered before hand, and not a single emergency left without proper provision to meet it. The European crew of the ship was not weak in numbers, they were efficiently commanded and had Malays and Chinese to support them; nevertheless they were completely paralysed, and showed no show of resistance being made—unless we except the shot fired by the engineer (Mr. Reilly) in the engine room and in the mainmast time the whole of the 250 passengers, crew, officers and all on board were at the mercy of this order of pirates, and to such an extent, too, that on perusing the evidence and contemplating what took place, one is forced to the conclusion that opposition on the part of the commander and officers would have been not only useless but even wicked, for it was by succumbing to the inevitable that no greater loss of life took place than that which has so strongly excited the indignation of all who have heard of it, one redeeming feature only is to be recorded, and that, notwithstanding the mastery way the scheme was projected and carried out, it was not tarnished by any deeds of outrage or brutality other than the chief considered necessary for the accomplishment of his aims; and that the ship being secured and the passengers paralysed and overcome no further loss of life was attempted. Although the evidence taken has been very voluminous, and has, apparently, been a mere repetition of details of which the testimony of any one witness might have sufficed, still it was necessary to record all that has been said in order to grasp, in all its bearings, the full magnitude of the conception of the piracy and the necessity of the steps to prevent any recurrence of such outrages. Further, it was necessary to go fully into the evidence to illustrate, in all its features, the alarming state of things in which an enterprise of such magnitude and involving so much forethought and organization was carried out in our midst without the very slightest knowledge or inkling of it on the part of those whose business it is to look after such things. I have concluded the inquiry by obtaining the opinions of some witnesses as to what preventive measures should be adopted in future. It is not for me to express an opinion as to the value to be placed on the opinions of any of them, but they will be useful in enabling us, generally, to come to some kind of conclusion as to how these evils, which are a scourge on our existence here, are to be prevented. And in forwarding the evidence for the information of the Government I shall consider it my duty to direct attention specially to the suggestions offered on this subject, many of which are, no doubt,

very valuable. I feel convinced that if real attention is paid to the matter by all concerned in the security of our lives and our commerce really effective measures are easily within the resources of our civilization.

THE FINDING.

I find that Captain Thomas Guy Pocock, late master of the British steamship *Namoa*, light-house-keeper Peterkin and others were unlawfully murdered on the 10th December, 1890, on board the steamer *Namoa*, while that vessel was in Chinese waters, by a gang of pirates who bought their passage tickets from the commodore of the ship on board that day.

MEETING OF THE SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of Sanitary Board was held yesterday afternoon. There were present—Mr. S. Brown, President; Mr. W. M. Deane, Vice-President; Dr. Ayres, Colonial Surgeon; Mr. J. H. Stewart-Lockhart, Registrar-General; Mr. Wong Shing, Dr. Ho Kai, Mr. N. J. Ede, Mr. H. McCallum (Secretary).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the last meeting, convened for the 26th ultimo, a public holiday, at which none of the members appeared, were confirmed after amendment—the words "no quorum formed" being inserted instead of the phrase "no meeting was held."

The President in signing the minutes remarked "these are the minutes of a meeting which was not held."

THE CULTIVATION OF VACCINE LYMPH.

A report by the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon on the subject of the cultivation of calf lymph in Japan was laid on the table. There was a minute appended by Dr. Canfield stating that the importance of having a calf vaccine station was not so much that every person need be vaccinated directly from the calf, but that the store of lymph might be replenished now and again. Lymph from the calf that had passed twice through the human organism became more potent. It was only when it had been used a few times that it failed to give the protection needed. Therefore it must not be given to the public to understand that calf lymph vaccination was necessary in individual instances.

The Secretary said a recommendation had been forwarded to the Government some time ago by the Board, that an establishment for the cultivation of calf lymph should be erected, and the answer that was sent back was that the matter would be considered at the time of framing the estimates.

The President—It did not appear in the estimates.

Mr. Ede—Vaccine has been cultivated at West Point by Mr. Ladds, I know, since last year.

The President—Only as an experiment, I think.

The Colonial Surgeon—Mr. Ladds, unfortunately, when in Japan only saw the military establishment. The place where we get our vaccine from is a sort of private sanitary society. This society did not appear to care to show him very much, and he had great difficulty in seeing anything at all. When it was there myself I had the greatest difficulty in seeing anything.

The Vice-President—There is no lack of vaccine in the colony at present?

The Colonial Surgeon—No, we can get it as usual from this society. It is very good lymph indeed. I gave Mr. Ladds some of it for his own use when he was experimenting.

The President—I was under the impression that when the matter came up before the Government a recommendation from the Board as to establishing such an institution in the Colony.

The Secretary—Yes, and such a recommendation was made.

The Chairman—No provision was made in the estimates, and the question is whether it is desirable to take any further steps in the matter.

The Colonial Surgeon—We cannot take any further steps without the money being voted for the institution.

The Registrar-General—If the Board is of opinion that its last suggestion holds good, the only thing to do is to call the attention of Government to the last recommendation, which has apparently been overlooked.

The Vice-President—To judge from the tone of the discussion on the estimates, I do not think the Finance Committee would have sanctioned the expense.

Ultimately it was agreed to forward the report to the Government for their attention to the previous recommendation.

INFLUENZA IN HONGKONG.

The Vice-President asked if there was any truth in the rumour that influenza was prevalent in Hongkong.

The Colonial Surgeon said so far as he knew there was nothing more than the usual number of cases during the winter. He should say there was nothing like an epidemic.

Mr. Ede said he had heard there was a great deal of fever about, and he should like to know if the recent earth-cutting was answerable for it.

The Colonial Surgeon said he thought it was not attributable to that cause. The cutting that was now being done was not on virgin soil, and the cases he had at present under his charge had occurred very far from where there was any cutting going on.

The contravention of the Market Ordinance, the drainage of two new houses on inland lot, No. 795, the defective condition of drains at Seymour Terrace, and improvements in the system of the Dusting Service also occupied the attention of the Board, which adjourned until Friday, the 13th instant.

THE IMPERIAL INITIATIVE.

The Decree which was published last week, ordering arrangements to be made for receiving the foreign Ministers in Audience in the first month of next year—the 17th of His Majesty's reign—will have been received with general satisfaction throughout the world. It would be, in the first flush of this new departure, to utter a breath that would dim the lustre of pure spontaneity, which is the saving virtue of this Imperial Decree. The solution of the long-pending and apparently unmanageable question could not have taken a happier form, and it was permissible to deduce from this one act of the Emperor an augury of the character of his reign, we should be tempted to say that the star of hope had arisen on this country.

The mere reception of the foreign Ministers may not in itself be a matter of much practical importance, for it is not to be supposed that business will be transacted, or even alluded to, at the Imperial Audiences. The official routine will no doubt prevail, much as it has done heretofore. But the granting of audience removes a slur which has rested for thirty years on the foreign representatives, and places their relations with the highest officials in a light which is at once clear and defensible, while it, at the same time, removes from the Imperial pathway a stum-

bling block of a really dangerous character. More than that, however; in an autocratic country there are always undeveloped potentialities in the personality of the sovereign in the beginning of his reign, and widespread interest has already been shown in the supposed idiosyncrasies of the young Emperor of China, which have hitherto been wrapped up in Palace mystery. He comes of a hardy stock, noted for independence of character, and his not very remote ancestors have evinced special curiosity in foreign matters, as well as considerable originality in statecraft. There is no antecedent reason, therefore, why his Majesty should not take a personal interest in the affairs of the Empire, external as well as internal, nor why he should not find a certain satisfaction in cultivating friendships with foreign Ministers at his Court, and his great revolution may be vitally effected in the mode of conducting public business.

The Imperial power in China, hampered and almost stifled as it is by conservative circles of officials of every grade in thick set array, seems to be impeded in its administration by the very overgrowth of the machinery which constitutes the instrument of Government. How is even an Emperor to break through these solid ranks; how emancipate himself from the thrall of one set, without getting more hopelessly entangled in the coils of another? How is even a Son of Heaven to learn what is passing on the Earth, while he is surrounded by an army of eunuchs and Ministers of State who neither dare nor care to transmit truth to the Imperial ear? Is it not then just possible that the introduction of an entirely new element in the Imperial entourage may open up a channel for the conveyance of useful knowledge such as no Emperor has enjoyed for 2000 years.

If there be anything in the notion to which we have repeatedly given publicity that the exclusiveness, the insouciance, and even brutality of manner to which foreigners have been subjected are essentially the outcome of the Chinese nature, combined with their traditions, and especially Chinese ignorance, there ought to be a good hope of better things in the future. When the Seventh Prince "came out" five years ago, the foreigners who came in contact with him were charmed with his affability and modest demeanour and by the interest which he evinced in the personal concerns of his family whom he conversed; it is no mere idle fancy therefore to think and hope that the very spirit of Chinese foreign intercourse may undergo a change.

The recent public acts of the Sovereign to which we drew attention last month appear to be the prelude to an Imperial career in which the Sovereign intends, as his heroic contemporary the German Emperor has done, to take the reins of Government into his own hands and rule according to his conscience and his own perceptions.

Many depressing pictures of the future of this great empire have occupied the columns of *The Chinese Times*. We have honestly cast our eyes to the north and south, to the east and west without discovering any signs of the coming regeneration of the Government and social system, and if, as we believe, some thorough regeneration is necessary to the preservation of the empire, the outlook is anything but encouraging. There seems to be but one ray of hope, and that is in the personal initiative of a Sovereign resolute and strong and with a long life before him in which to develop his reforms. It may be that such a ruler is now on the throne, and his proceedings will be scanned with very eager interest by both natives and foreigners.

He new relations which have been established by Imperial decree, and which may open a door to the exercise of a healthy and living foreign influence, such as the Emperor in possession of auxiliary such as the most available to any of His Majesty's subjects. But this point to an ideal combination which is a bitter-sweet for the indulgence of the imagination than for the consideration of probable actualities; for great *Elites* are exceedingly rare birds in the earth, and are outside of practical calculation. Indeed, this novel state of things would have special dangers of its own.

The foreigner could scarcely be expected to rise to the highest conception of the occasion, for though an elevated sense of public duty might in some cases bring about that self-sacrifice which subordinates the minor to the major, the temporary to the permanent, it would be an idle dream to expect a whole *corps diplomatique* to be inspired by ideal extending much beyond the sphere of their patriotic duties. They have their "stars" and "crosses" to gain and perhaps still more to lose, and their own personal interests will always, with average men, overrule all unselfish aspirations. There will probably be in the future, as there has been in the past, a great deal of pushing and hustling merely to attract notice and to secure petty advantages over rivals. Instead, therefore, of the new intercourse of foreigners being made subservient to any high aims of the Court, it seems just as probable that it will degenerate into a hot-bed of Levantine scramble. Not from that, therefore, but quite another focus of foreign influence, springs the true hope of the regeneration of China. Those who have the responsibility of counselling the State must have their interests and ambitions consolidated in China, and no amount of wisdom, tact, devotion, and magnanimity will be too much for the men who during the next twenty years may fill this onerous position. As there is already not merely a theoretical but a true reform, but a perfect working model, almost ready to hand, it would seem that the Emperor Kwang Su does not need to go far afield for working auxiliaries.—*Chinese Times*.

REFEREE.

The following is what our friend "Pendergon" has to say in the recent fight between Jackson, the Champion of the world, and Goddard—a giant who is credited with possessing all the necessary qualifications of a world-beater.

Looking through the papers in search of something sporting to write about, as I am afraid my readers must be getting tired of so much Stanley and Parnell and politics and religion, I came upon an account of a match in Melbourne between black Jackson, who figured here some months ago as one of the wonders of the modern boxing world, and a local bruiser known as Joe Goddard. The conditions of the match were that Jackson should knock Goddard out in eight rounds, and it was thought he was certain to do so, as, in addition to Goddard's being regarded as merely an extra rough sort of *larrikin* with no pretensions to science, the nigger had a good stone advantage in weight, besides being two once faster in the legs. To the astonishment of the spectators, however, who seem to have been Jackson mad to begin with, and Goddard mad directly they found Goddard was virtually victorious, the *larrikin* fairly held his own to the finish, and, according to the conditions under which the pair met, have been returned the winner; the judges, however, disagreed, and the referee on being called upon decided that honours were even, and that Jackson and Goddard had fought a draw battle.

This is very ridiculous, as a contract is a

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Hongkong, 8th January, 1891.

contract no matter whether it is to run or walk or ride a given distance in a given time, or to knock a man out in a given number of rounds. It does not do, however, to laugh too merrily at what is done in boxing matches by our friends down under, as some of our own performances in the same line are open to considerable criticism, not to say considerable contempt also. It is likely enough that if black Jackson had not known it has been sworn to at the Surrey Sessions in England, by members of boxing clubs and backers of prize-fighters, that it is not possible to hurt a man with the gloves on, at all events, that no man ever has been hurt with the gloves, it is just on the cards black Jackson would not have essayed the hopeless task of endeavouring, with his gloved fists, to knock Goddard out. Despite the tremendous excitement that has been shown in some London papers because Jackson lost—and he did lose notwithstanding that his friends on the directorate declared the match a draw—I don't suppose the result matters a red cent to either boxer. In all probability the affair was simply got up to draw a gate; and except that Jackson would not like to fall in any task he undertook just now—being so very great a conqueror here at this present moment—it did not matter to him a penny to him whether he knocked Goddard out or whether he didn't. When I was in Sydney I was drawn into a show by a bill which stated that Jackson, then not a person of a fifth part the account he is now, had contracted to knock another nigger out in so many rounds for a confidence prize. Jackson spared well and prettily, but he never tried to knock the other man out, and it was only too evident that he never intended to.

Now that Jackson is so much greater a champion than he was four years ago he may have expected Goddard to go out whether knocked or not; but Goddard may have put the double on, and refused to "come it" as arranged. It is not so easy to knock a man out just when you want to, unless he happens to be the complete duffer and you are the best man in the world; and even then you can't be sure of bringing off the desired hit at the desired moment. From what I personally know of these things, and think the action of the referee who declared Jackson the winner and the referee who pointed out that Goddard had not been knocked out, kept his contract, and I thought to be knocked out at a part of the boxing bout agreed upon beforehand. Australian officials, such as this as to give a decision like that which was given between Jackson and Goddard without good and sufficient reason. The referee, Miller, is himself a well-known boxing practitioner. Or it may have been, if everything was fair, square, and aboveboard—which is an affair of this sort is none too likely, as I don't believe any man would be fool enough to try and knock another man out in a given number of rounds for a money stake unless the other man were a consenting party—it may have been that the referee did not like to hurt black Jackson's delicate susceptibilities by telling him, in his now great and glorious position, that he was a loser. For the fighting men of now are jealous fighting men, and full to the bung of their new importance. They like to have everything their own way, they do; and Jackson might have had the law of the judge and the referee, especially the referee, if they had dared say anything that happened to displease him. A fighting man's wounded honour must be a thing worth looking at.

THE FASCINATION OF FRAUD.

All inventors know the cold inattention of business men to some of the leading inventions of the age, which had to drag along helpless until they had nearly dragged their inventors into the poor-house before they secured recognition and success. The various reaping, threshing, sowing and other devices for farm-work were in this list. The inventions to facilitate and make safer the various operations in practical railroading underwent this experience. Westinghouse is a millionaire, but he was a wayfaring man, acquainted with grief for many a day, before he secured the attention of railroad men to his life-saving invention, which is now a necessity upon every railroad in the country. The inventor of the sewing-machine had not a second shift to his belt for a long time before his invention was accepted and cheapened the shirts on the backs of millions. But if these inventions had been frauds they would have been taken hold of by capital much sooner. There is a definite fascination in a fraud. The transmutation of metals into gold; the distillation of gold from water; the finding of electricity in a solution of mud; the refining of sugar by a battery; the new power hidden under Keely's hat, all have found patrons with the men who would rather be made thousands by understanding the fascination of fraud. This country has been prolific in useful inventions. No people elsewhere or in any times have been so keenly endowed with the inventive genius as ours. Out of the useful inventions when successful, vast fortunes have been made, and these are the golden background upon which successful frauds outline their premises. The friend combination, which proposed to "roll" raw sugar by electricity, was a marvelous success. The machine delivered beautifully pure and well-granulated sugar, and investors leaptfrogged each other to secure stock. Just one man who was beset by the swindlers kept his head. Claus Spreckels was taken to view the results of the process. He saw raw sugar put into the machine and the refined come out, and then he asked, "What becomes of the dirt?" That doored the swindlers. It proved that no matter how smart the inventor of a fraud may be, he is sure to forget something that a solid self-possessed practical man will notice. Friends had arranged his raw sugar and

his refined all right, but had forgotten to account for the dirt.

Recently New York has staked a new swindle, in which manufacturers invested nearly \$100,000. It claimed to be an invention for hand-painting lamp shades by machinery. Now, one would as soon expect success for a device to lay eggs by machinery, but this succeeded to the extent of getting a large sum of money advanced in cash in hand to the swindlers, who understood the money value there is in the fascination of fraud.

Bookmakers have published the history of advertising, the history of slang, the history of the social evil, the history of sign painting, and many other histories of many other things, common and curious. The history of fraudulent inventions would make a valuable addition to the list. It would be a marvelous record of criminal ingenuity and human credulity. It would prove that the eyes of the serpent when charming his prey is not more fascinating than a fraud that pretends to be an invention.

FOOD FOR CONSUMPTIVES.—Scott's Emulsion of Pure Cod Liver Oil with Hypophosphites of Lime and Soda is a most wonderful food for the Consumptive. It not only gives strength and increases the flesh, but heals the irritation of the throat and lungs. It is very palatable; children take it like milk, and in all wasting diseases both for adults and children it is a marvellous food and medicine. Any Chemist can supply it.—A. S. Watson & Co. (Ltd.), agents in Hongkong and China.—*Advt.*

To-day's Advertisements.

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"NAMO", will be despatched for the above Ports, TO-MORROW, the 11th instant, at DAYLIGHT.

For Freight or Passage, apply to DOUGLAS LARPAIK & Co., General Managers. Hongkong, 8th January, 1891. [100]

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"FORMOSA", will be despatched for the above Ports, on TUESDAY, the 13th instant, at DAYLIGHT.

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FOR SHANGHAI. THE Steamship

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HONGKONG, CANTON, AND MACAO STEAMBOAT COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE Forty-ninth Ordinary Half-yearly MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in the Company will be held at the Office of the Company, No. 18, Bank Buildings, Queen's Road Central, on FRIDAY, the 30th instant, at 12 o'clock Noon, for the purpose of receiving a Report of the Directors, together with a Statement of Accounts, declaring a Dividend, and electing Auditors.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 17th to 30th instant, inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors, T. ARNOLD, Secretary. Hongkong, 10th January, 1891. [114]

HONGKONG CHORAL SOCIETY, "THE GONDOLIERS."

The Society will give their FIRST PERFORMANCE on

Gibert & Sullivan's New Comic Opera, SATURDAY, the 31st January, commencing at 9 P.M.

Tickets, \$2 each, may be had of Messrs. LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., on Friday, 23rd instant, at 11 o'clock a.m. Hongkong, 10th January, 1891. [113]

LABUK PLANTING COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that the following Shares have this day been FORFEITED, and that the existing scrips are not now negotiable.

Nos. 4031/4035=5 Shares. " 3391/3410=20 " " 3441/3445=5 " " 3405/3410=5 " 35 Shares. TURNER & Co., General Managers. Hongkong, 10th January, 1891. [116]

Masonic.

ST. JOHN LODGE
OF HONGKONG,
No. 618, S.C.

A REGULAR MEETING of the above LODGE will be held in FREEMASONS' HALL, Zealand Street, on MONDAY next, the 13th instant, at 8.30 for 9 p.m. precisely. Visiting Brethren are cordially invited.
Hongkong, 6th January, 1891. [101]

ZETLAND LODGE
No. 525.

A N EMERGENCY MEETING of the above LODGE will be held in FREEMASONS' HALL, Zealand Street, on FRIDAY next, the 11th instant, at 5 for 5.30 P.M. precisely. Visiting Brethren are cordially invited.
Hongkong, 6th January, 1891. [111]

To be Let.

A ROOM TO LET,
FURNISHED OR UNFURNISHED.

A LADY AND GENTLEMAN living in one of the pleasant parts of Hongkong have a vacant room in their house which they would like to let. Suitable for a bachelor or single lady.
Apply to
"W,"
c/o Hongkong Telegraph Office.
Hongkong, 27th December, 1890. [56]

TO LET.

GODOWNS— BLUE BUILDINGS.

Apply to
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT
& AGENCY CO., LD.
Hongkong, 24th December, 1890. [55]

TO LET.

BLUE BUILDINGS.—Ground Floor of No. 3.

MAGAZINE GAP.—Two Semi-detached Houses. Rent \$45 each.

Apply to
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT
& AGENCY CO., LD.
Hongkong, 2nd December, 1890. [45]

TO LET.

With Immediate Possession.

No. 17, PRAYA CENTRAL.

A SPACIOUS GODOWN—suitable for Ship-chandler or Store (late occupied by Messrs. Blackhead & Co.)

Also
OFFICES—above Messrs. Douglas, Laprak & Co.'s Premises.

Apply to
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT
& AGENCY CO., LD.
Hongkong, 16th December, 1890. [40]

TO LET.

With Immediate Possession.

THE MARINE HOTEL.

SITUATE on the Praya, opposite to the old F. & O. Wharf, comprising—23 Bed-rooms, Dining-room, Billiard-room, Bar, &c.

Apply to
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT
& AGENCY CO., LD.
Hongkong, 16th December, 1890. [30]

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Intimations.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

INFORMATION has been received from the Military Authorities that ARTILLERY PRACTICE will take place from the East and South Shore Batteries, Stonecutters' Island, from the 8th to 20th January next, both days inclusive, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. daily.

The line of fire will be in a South-westerly direction from the Batteries.
All Ships, Junks, and other Vessels are cautioned to keep clear of the range.
By Command,
F. FLEMING,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Hongkong, 10th December, 1890. [62]

NOTICE OF 5TH AND FINAL CALL.

LABUK PLANTING CO. LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that the 5th and FINAL CALL of \$14 per Share, on the 4,000 Shares, numbered 1001/1000 is payable to the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation on or before the 15th January, 1891, and Calls not paid on said date are liable to pay interest at the rate of 12 per cent per annum.

The TRANSFER BOOKS will be CLOSED from the 5th to the 15th January, 1891, both days inclusive.

TURNER & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 13th December, 1890. [1700]

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

NOTICE is hereby given that an EXTRA-ORDINARY MEETING of this Company will be held at the Hongkong Hotel, on MONDAY, the 19th January, at Noon precisely, for the purpose of confirming the Special Resolution passed this day, that the Articles of Association of the Green Island Cement Company, Limited, be amended by adding at the end of Article 6th the words following:—

"Any Share, in respect of which all the Instalments shall not have been paid on or before the Sixteenth day of January, 1901, shall be forfeited, and any Shares so forfeited shall be deemed to be the absolute property of the Company and may be re-allotted or otherwise disposed of as the General Manager shall determine, and any Member whose Shares shall have been forfeited shall, notwithstanding such forfeiture, be liable to pay to the Company all Instalments due in respect of such Shares as at the time of forfeiture."

And by inserting the figures 20 in the place of the figures 2000 in Articles 41 and 42.

And for the purpose of confirming the appointment of Messrs. ARNOLD KARBURG & Co., as General Managers.

C. EWENS,
General Manager.
Hongkong, 3rd January, 1891. [181]

THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that an EXTRA-ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS will be held at the City Hall, Hongkong, on MONDAY, the 26th day of January, 1891, at 12 o'clock noon, for the purpose of confirming the following resolution passed at an Extraordinary General Meeting of Shareholders held at the City Hall on Thursday the 8th January instant, viz:—

"That (inasmuch as Association) Ordinance, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 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820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000, 1001, 1002, 1003, 1004, 1005, 1006, 1007, 1008, 1009, 1010, 1011, 1012, 1013, 1014, 1015, 1016, 1017, 1018, 1019, 1020, 1021, 1022, 1023, 1024, 1025, 1026, 1027, 1028, 1029, 1030, 1031, 1032, 1033, 1034, 1035, 1036, 1037, 1038, 1039, 1040, 1041, 1042, 1043, 1044, 1045, 1046, 1047, 1048, 1049, 1050, 1051, 1052, 1053, 1054, 1055, 1056, 1057, 1058, 1059, 1060, 1061, 1062, 1063, 1064, 1065, 1066, 1067, 1068, 1069, 1070, 1071, 1072, 1073, 1074, 1075, 1076, 1077, 1078, 1079, 1080, 1081, 1082, 1083, 1084, 1085, 1086, 1087, 1088, 1089, 1090, 1091, 1092, 1093, 1094, 1095, 1096, 1097, 1098, 1099, 1100, 1101, 1102, 1103, 1104, 1105, 1106, 1107, 1108, 1109, 1110, 1111, 1112, 1113, 1114, 1115, 1116, 1117, 1118, 1119, 1120, 1121, 1122, 1123, 1124, 1125, 1126, 1127, 1128, 1129, 1130, 1131, 1132, 1133, 1134, 1135, 1136, 1137, 1138, 1139, 1140, 1141, 1142, 1143, 1144, 1145, 1146, 1147, 1148, 1149, 1150, 1151, 1152, 1153, 1154, 1155, 1156, 1157, 1158, 1159, 1160, 1161, 1162, 1163, 1164, 1165, 1166, 1167, 1168, 1169, 1170, 1171, 1172, 1173, 1174, 1175, 1176, 1177, 1178, 1179, 1180, 1181, 1182, 1183, 1184, 1185, 1186, 1187, 1188, 1189, 1190, 1191, 1192, 1193, 1194, 1195, 1196, 1197, 1198, 1199, 1200, 1201, 1202, 1203, 1204, 1205, 1206, 1207, 1208, 1209, 1210, 1211, 1212, 1213, 1214, 1215, 1216, 1217, 1218, 1219, 1220, 1221, 1222, 1223, 1224, 1225, 1226, 1227, 1228, 1229, 1230, 1231, 1232, 1233, 1234, 1235, 1236, 1237, 1238, 1239, 1240, 1241, 1242, 1243, 1244, 1245, 1246, 1247, 1248, 1249, 1250, 1251, 1252, 1253, 1254, 1255, 1256, 1257, 1258, 1259, 1260, 1261, 1262, 1263, 1264, 1265, 1266, 1267, 1268, 1269, 1270, 1271, 1272, 1273, 1274, 1275, 1276, 1277, 1278, 1279, 1280, 1281, 1282, 1283, 1284, 1285, 1286, 1287, 1288, 1289, 1290, 1291, 1292, 1293, 1294, 1295, 1296, 1297, 1298, 1299, 1300, 1301, 1302, 1303, 1304, 1305, 1306, 1307, 1308, 1309, 1310, 1311, 1312, 1313, 1314, 1315, 1316, 1317, 1318, 1319, 1320, 1321, 1322, 1323, 1324, 1325, 1326, 1327, 1328, 1329, 1330, 1331, 1332, 1333, 1334, 1335, 1336, 1337, 1338, 1